

## **The African American History Act**

Senator Cory A. Booker and Congressman Jamaal Bowman

In order to reach our nation's promise of being a place of liberty and justice for all, we must acknowledge the full truth about our country's history. Education and literacy play key roles in telling this truth—one rooted in tolerance, love, and justice for humanity. To ensure the social, economic, and political rights of all Americans in our pluralistic democracy, we must actively engage and invest in honest and inclusive educational endeavors that explore our nation's rich and complex history.

***The African American History Act would invest \$10 million over 5 years in the National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) to support African American history education programs—all of which would be voluntarily available for students, parents, educators, and the public.***

The bill would fund a variety of activities to **allow the NMAAHC to continue supporting educators, students, and families in learning and exploring the richness of African American history and culture.** The NMAAHC would use these funds to expand and improve upon their work in a variety of ways, including:

- Developing and maintaining a variety of accessible resources to promote an understanding of African American history. This includes a collection of digital content, housed on the NMAAHC website, to assist educators, students, and families across the country in teaching about and engaging in African American history
- Engaging with local and state leaders interested in incorporating these resources in curricula
- Engaging with the public through programming, resources, and social media to increase awareness of African American history through a social justice and anti-bias lens
- Convening experts and creating and disseminating related scholarly work
- Translating new and existing NMAAHC work into multiple languages

Further, **the bill supports the NMAAHC's work to increase national capacity for African American history education, including:**

- Developing and disseminating high quality pedagogical approaches and curricular materials related to teaching African American history
- Providing opportunities for Professional Development for early childhood, elementary, and secondary teachers
- Designing and implementing a teacher fellowship program

**Endorsing organizations:** American Federation of Teachers (AFT), National Education Association (NEA), National Women's Law Center, Color of Change, United Negro College Fund (UNCF), Network for Public Education, Alliance for Quality Education, SchoolHouse Connection, American Psychological Organization, CLASP